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USC WESRAC WIRED Deliverables and Next Steps



The Western Research Application Center (WESRAC) is a research center at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering organized to bring technical assistance to organizations in the communities and region of the University. USC WESRAC WIRED 2.2 efforts are focused on the creation of a Web based virtual supply chain campus. Several buildings with complimentary discipline topics provide a “learning about” environment that supports the keystone simulation building. The building presently houses the NetLogo “Beer Game” simulation. (<http://wesrac.usc.edu/wired/>). This simulation provides a demonstration of the complex and counter intuitive nature of dynamic systems such as a supply chain. The simulation center will evolve into a site for a learning object simulation that will immerse the learning in an online gaming environment that will capitalize on the new online learning paradigms that are complimentary to the study of system dynamics and socialization of virtual systems.



Next steps include contributions for an upcoming supply chain book, the emphasis of which will be on modern supply chain theories that derive from complex dynamic systems and self-organizing solutions. Currently WESRAC and other WIRED 2.2 partners are investigating the possibility of

moving the supply chain campus to second life, a virtual world learning experience that will allow for the development of a true heuristic experience that will contribute to participants’ ability to transfer lessons learned into real world work environments.



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